

Office of the Fire Marshal

Posting of Occupant Load

Effective Date: 01/01/2014

Every room or space which is used for assembly, classroom, dining, drinking, or similar purposes having an occupant load of 50 or more shall have the occupant load of the room or space posted in a conspicuous place, near the main exit or exit access doorway from the room or space. Posted signs shall be of an approved legible permanent design and shall be maintained by the owner or authorized agent.

The following specifications for occupant load signs are provided for clarification:

- 1. The occupant load sign shall be at least 8-1/2 inches by 11 inches with block capital letters not less than 3/4" high and 1/16" stroke.
- 2. The corresponding floor layout shall also be at least 8-1/2 inches by 11 inches.
- 3. The use of the room shall be indicated on the sign.
- 4. The address of the occupancy shall be indicated on the sign and floor plan.
- 5. Where alcohol is present, the sign shall have a San Jose Fire Department "APPROVED BY" stamp affixed to the occupant load sign and corresponding floor layout. The stamp shall bear the signature of the Fire Marshal.
- 6. After the San Jose Fire Department "APPROVED BY" stamp has been signed by the Fire Marshal, the sign shall be laminated and displayed in a noticeable place near the main exit.
- 7. The sign shall be durable, permanent, and have a contrasting color from the background.
- 8. Consult with your Fire Inspector through your Building Permit fire inspection request.
- 9. The following are examples for reference:

a) Single purpose room



Occupancy Load Sign

APPROVED STAMP (Alcohol)



APPROVED BY:

Fire Marshal Date San Jose Fire Department



Bureau of Fire Prevention



Posting of Occupant Load Date: April 18, 2016

Page 2 of 3

b) Multi-use room - room with different uses in different areas

123 MAIN STREET MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD (MULTI-USE ROOM)		ANCE 100R	IUM
DINING: 70 DANCING: 150 TOTAL: 220		DAN	PODIUM

Occupancy Load Sign

Floor Layout – Dining and Dancing Without Alcohol No Stamp Required

c) Combination Uses - room with different uses at different times

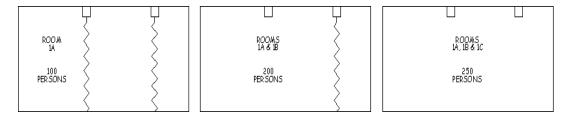
123 MAIN STREET MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD				
DINING: 65				
123 MAIN STREET MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD DANCING: 150	BUFFET	APPROVED B	Date	PODIUM

Occupancy Load Sign

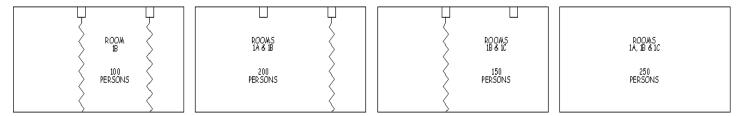
Floor Layout With Alcohol Stamp Required Page 3 of 3

d) Rooms with adjustable or folding partitions

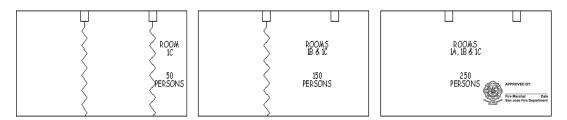
MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD - ROOM 1A:



MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD - ROOM 1B:



MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD - ROOM 1C:



If Alcohol May be present, the Sign must be stamped as shown by Room 1C.